

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

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FOR STATE /EB/TT/TD HUFFCUTT AND USIA/IBS/E LANGENBECK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, GR, YO

SUBJECT: SECOND SESSION OF ITU LF/MF BROADCASTING CONFERENCE

U.S. GREEK INTERESTS

REF: ATHENS 6485 - C

1. FOLLOWING ARE RESULTS MEETING OF AUGUST 27. KEY PARTICIPANTS WERE JACOBS AND RHINE FROM U.S. SIDE AND COSMAS AND HAGER FROM GREEK SIDE. MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN CORDIAL AND COOPERATIVE ATMOSPHERE.

A. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT OF LETTER TO BE SENT SOONEST FROM GREEK MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TO YUGOSLAV FEDERAL MINISTRY OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS. QUOTE. A YUGOSLAV RADIO BROADCASTING STATION, LOCATED AT SABAC, HAS FOR CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN A YE
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BEEN CAUSING HARMFUL INTERFERENCE TO A GREEK RADIO BROADCASTING STATI

ON

OPERATING ON FREQUENCY OF 791 KHZ. THE INTERFERENCE IS STRONGEST AFTER SUNDOWN, IS RELATIVELY WIDESPREAD, AND INCLUDES AREAS OF GREECE

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PARA. THE FREQUENCY 791 KHZ WAS ASSIGNED TO GREECE IN THE EUROPEAN BROADCASTING CONVENTION, 1949 (COPENHAGEN PLAN), AND IS RECORDED IN THE MASTER FREQUENCY REGISTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION WITH A COLUMN 2A REGISTRATION DATE. THE GREEK STATION THEREFORE HAS THE RIGHT TO INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL INTERFERENCE I
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ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 607 OF THE ITU RADIO REGULATIONS AND ARTICLE 8 OF THE EUROPEAN BROADCASTING CONVENTION. THE GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA IS SIGNATORY TO BOTH THESE AGREEMENTS. PARA. IN ACCORDANCE ARTICLE 9 OF THE ITU RADIO REGULATIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE ON FEBRUARY 8, 1975 CALLED TO THE ATTENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FREQUENCY

REGISTRATION BOARD THAT HARMFUL INTERFERENCE WAS BEING CAUSED BY THE SABAC STATION TO THE GREEK STATION ON 791 KHZ. THE BOARD REPLIED ON FEBRUARY 25, 1975 CONFIRMING THE RIGHT OF THE GREEK STATION TO INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION FROM INTERFERENCE. IN A LETTER TO THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, 11170 BEOGRAD, A COPY OF WHICH WAS ALSO SENT TO THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION, THE BOARD PLACED UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ELIMINATING THE INTERFERENCE TO THE GREEK STATION, AND REQUESTED THE NATURE OF THE ACTION THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA PLANNED TO TAKE. PARA. ON JULY 24, IN A LETTER TO THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION, THE IFRB REAFFIRMED THE RIGHT OF THE GREEK STATION TO PROTECTION FROM INTERFERENCE AND AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT RESPONSIBILITY HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA TO ELIMINATE INTERFERENCE. PARA. THE INTERFERENCE TO THE GREEK STATION CONTINUES TO BE OBSERVED. IN ADDITION, IT HAS BEEN NOTED IN THE LIST OF FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ITU REGIONAL LW/MW BROADCASTING CONFERENCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA IS PLANNING A FIVE STATION SYNCHRONIZED NETWORK ON 792 KHZ, THE CHANNEL WHICH WILL REPLACE THE PRESENT 791 KHZ CHANNEL IN THE PROPOSED NEW FREQUENCY PLAN. THIS IS A MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE SINCE IT WOULD RESULT IN AN EVEN HIGHER LEVEL OF INTERFERENCE, OVER A WIDER AREA THAN IS PRESENTLY BEING EXPERIENCED BY
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THE GREEK STATION. PARA. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 15 OF THE ITU RADIO REGULATIONS, AND UPON THE ADVICE OF THE IFRB, THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION URGES THE YUGOSLAV ADMINISTRATION TO EXERCISE THE UTMOST GOODWILL AND TO TAKE PROMPTLY THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ELIMINATE THE INTERFERENCE BEING EXPERIENCED BY THE GREEK RADIO BROADCASTING STATION ON 791 KHZ, AND TO CONSIDER AN ALTERNATE FREQUENCY FOR THE YUGOSLAV NETWORK SHOWN ON 792 KHZ IN THE ITU'S LIST OF REQUIREMENTS. PARA. THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE REQUESTS THAT

IT BE NOTIFIED OF THE NATURE OF THE ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN
BY THE YUGOSLAV ADMINISTRATION IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES
UNDER THE EUROPEAN BROADCASTING CONVENTION AND THE ITU RADIO
REGULATIONS. PARA. SINCE THE SECOND

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SESSION OF THE ITU'S REGIONAL LW/MW BROADCASTING CONFERENCE BEGINS
IN GENEVA ON OCTOBER 6 OF THIS YEAR, THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION
ATTACHES CONSIDERABLE URGENCY TO THIS MATTER. UNQUOTE.
B. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT OF LETTER TO BE SENT SOONEST BY GREEK
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TO ITU'S INTER-
NATIONAL FREQUENCY REGISTRATION BOARD, GENEVA. ATTACHED TO THIS
WILL BE A COPY OF THE LETTER CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE. THIS
IS IN RESPONSE TO A JULY 25, 1975 LETTER FROM THE IFRB, WHICH
WILL BE SENT TO THE DEPT/AGENCY VIA AIR. QUOTE. THE GREEK
ADMINISTRATION IS GRATEFUL TO THE IFRB FOR ITS
EXPLANATION OF THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED BY THE BOARD IN THE TECHNICAL
EXAMINATION OF THE USE OF FREQUENCY 791 KHZ BY A YUGOSLAV
RADIO BROADCASTING STATION LOCATED AT SABAC. PARA. THIS EXPLANATION,
HOWEVER, INCREASES THE CONCERN OF THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION
THAT THE BOARD MAY HAVE APPLIED
AN INAPPROPRIATE PROCEDURE, WHICH HAS RESULTED UNFAVORABLY
TO THE RADIO BROADCASTING INTERESTS OF THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION.

PARA. SINCE BOTH GREECE AND YUGOSLAVIA ARE SIGNATORY TO THE EUROPEAN BROADCASTING CONVENTION, COPENHAGEN, 1949 (EBC), THE YUGOSLAV SUBMISSION FOR USE OF FREQUENCY 791 KHZ AT SABAC SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXAMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 8 OF THE EBC. IT IS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPINION OF THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION THAT PARAGRAPH 505 OF THE RADIO REGULATIONS IS APPLICABLE ONLY AFTER THE COORDINATION PROCEDURE CONTAINED IN ARTICLE 8 OF THE EBC HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT. SINCE THIS CLEARLY WAS NOT THE CASE, THE BOARD SHOULD NOT HAVE APPLIED PARAGRAPH 505 IN ITS EXAMINATION OF THE YUGOSLAV SUBMISSION. THE BOARD SHOULD HAVE APPLIED PARAGRAPH 502, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL OF THE LISTINGS IN THE MASTER FREQUENCY REGISTER. PARA. BY IGNORING ARTICLE 8 OF THE EBC AND APPLYING PARAGRAPH 505 OF THE RADIO REGULATIONS, THE BOARD HAS DEPRIVED THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION OF THE RIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION ITS STATION ON 791 KHZ IS ENTITLED TO UNDER PARAGRAPH 607 OF THE RADIO REGULATIONS. THIS IS CLEARLY CONTRARY TO THE INTENT OF THE RADIO REGULATIONS. AS A RESULT THE GREEK STATION CONTINUES TO THIS DAY TO RECEIVE INTERFERENCE FROM THE SABAC STATION.

PARA. CONSIDERING THE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF ITS LETTER TO THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION OF 25 FEBRUARY 1975, AND THE BOARD'S PLACEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ELIMINATING THE INTERFERENCE SQUARELY UPON THE YUGOSLAV ADMINISTRATION, ATTACHED IS A COPY OF A LETTER SENT BY THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION IN WHICH THE YUGOSLAV

ADMINISTRATION IS REQUESTED TO ELIMINATE THE EXISTING INTERFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 15 OF THE RADIO REGULATIONS. PARA. THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION URGENTLY REQUESTS THE ASSISTANCE OF THE IFRB IN RESOLVING THIS MATTER IN WHATEVER MANNER MAY BE APPROPRIATE, AND PREFERABLY BEFORE THE CONVENING DATE OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ITU'S LW/MW REGIONAL BROADCASTING CONFERENCE. UNQUOTE.

C. JACOBS IS PREPARING DRAFTS OF MESSAGES GOG WILL SEND TO OTHER ADMINISTRATION SHOWN INTERFERING WITH GREEK STATIONS ON 792 AND 1260 KHZ IN ITU LIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBJECT CONFERENCE. HE WILL MEET WITH COSMAS ON AUGUST 30 TO FINALIZE THEM. JACOBS PLANS ARRIVE BERLIN AUGUST 31 VIA PA 692 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH GERT AND SHERILL.

ALEXANDER

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